

**ABSTRACT:**

In order to provide a gradual increase in supply current following an apparatus switch-on, the invention proposes a device and method for selectively activating different data processing parts of the apparatus in sequence following switch-on. The device proposed for implementing the invention comprises a shift register (10) and logic circuitry (20). The 5 shift register (10) and logic circuitry (20) receive a common master clock **CLK** and generate a plurality of sub-clocking signals **CLK<sub>0</sub>**, **CLK<sub>3</sub>**, which, whilst being identical in frequency and in phase with one another, are arranged to only assume a normal free running condition, one at a time following the initial switch-on. The respective sub-clocking signals are connected to clock inputs of respective data processing parts of the apparatus. Providing such 10 separate sub-clocking signals ensure a gradual start-up and shut-down and helps to avoid problems associated with a heavy current draw at switch-on or off.

(Fig. 1)

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